Assembly Bill No. 1854

CHAPTER 97

An act to amend Section 27317 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

[Approved by Governor July 13, 2012. Filed with Secretary of State July 13, 2012.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1854, Brownley. Vehicles: inflatable restraint systems.

Existing law makes it a misdemeanor for any person to install or reinstall for compensation or distribute or sell any previously deployed air bag that is part of an inflatable restraint system if the person knows that the air bag has been previously deployed.

This bill would also make it a misdemeanor for a person, for compensation, to install, reinstall, rewire, tamper with, alter, or modify a vehicle's computer system or supplemental restraint system, including, but not limited to, the supplemental restraint system's on-board system performance indicators, so that it falsely indicates the supplemental restraint system is in proper working order, and for a person to knowingly distribute or sell a previously deployed air bag or component that will no longer meet the original equipment manufacturing form or function for proper operation.

Because this bill would expand the definition of an existing crime, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 27317 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

27317. A person who installs, reinstalls, rewires, tampers with, alters, or modifies for compensation, a vehicle's computer system or supplemental restraint system, including, but not limited to, the supplemental restraint system's on-board system performance indicators, so that it falsely indicates the supplemental restraint system is in proper working order, or who knowingly distributes or sells a previously deployed air bag or previously deployed air bag component that will no longer meet the original equipment manufacturing form or function for proper operation, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to five thousand dollars (\$5,000)

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or by imprisonment in a county jail for up to one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.